MAR 0 5 2010

SENATE RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING INCREASING FEDERAL REIMBURSEMENT RATES FOR SCHOOL MEALS.

WHEREAS, millions of children every day eat lunch, and sometimes breakfast, at school, yet currently the United States Department of Agriculture invests only \$2.68 on average per day for each eligible student's school lunch; and

WHEREAS, this is not enough money to ensure our children are being fed high quality, healthy meals; and

WHEREAS, thirty per cent of America's children are overweight and providing these children with cheap, unhealthy food only contributes to the problem; and

WHEREAS, many children are growing up without the skills they need to choose healthy foods; and

WHEREAS, projections indicate that for children born after 2000, one out of every three Caucasians and one out of every two Blacks and Hispanics may develop diabetes in their lifetime, many before they graduate from high school; and

WHEREAS, this year, the United States Congress has an opportunity to transform the way American children eat when it reauthorizes federal child nutrition programs; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2010, that the Hawaii State Legislature supports increasing federal reimbursement rates for school meals by one dollar per day per child to improve the nutritional quality of school meals; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii State Legislature supports implementation of the proposed Institute of Medicine School Food Guidelines to ensure that increased funding is equated to healthier food; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to Hawaii's Congressional Delegation.

OFFERED BY:

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